

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-02 SS-15 NSC-05 H-01

/046 R

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R 132054Z FEB 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, JA

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - PAN AM FLIGHTS AT OSAKA

REF: TOKYO 1344

1. IN VIEW CONTINUING RIGID POSITION TAKEN BY NAKAMURA AND OTHER GOJ OFFICIALS REGARDING MINOR ADJUSTMENT AT OSAKA TO ENABLE PAN AM TO INCREASE ITS WEEKLY FREQUENCIES FROM 22 TO 24 BEGINNING MAY 22, 1975, DEPARTMENT AT PAN AM REQUEST, HAS RECONSIDERED ITS POSITION AND NOW BELIEVES IT MAY BE USEFUL AND APPROPRIATE TO SET FORTH OUR POSITION MORE FORMALLY IN A DIPLOMATIC NOTE. WHILE LOCAL PRESSURES MAY PRECLUDE ANY EXPANSION IN SERVICE AT OSAKA THE RESIDENT OF THE AREA OBVIOUSLY DO NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE DECISION REGARDING TE ALLOCATION OF EXISTING SLOTS. WITHIN THE EXISTING QUOTA, WHICH WE UNDERSTAND IS A TOTAL OF 2870 SCHEDULED DEPARTURE/ARRIVALS EACH WEEK, THERE SHOULD BE

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SUFFICIENT FLEXIBILITY TO ENABLE PAN AM TO MAKE TE

RELATIVELY INSIGNIFICANT INCREASE FROM 22 TO 24 FLIGHTS PER WEEK WHICH IT SEEKS TO IMPLEMENT IN MAY. POSSIBLE ADJUSTMENTS TO ENABLE CARRIERS TO OPERATE WIDE-BODIED AIRCRAFT TO OSAKA, WHILE CLEARLY DESIRABLE, WOULD NOT DIRECTLY AFFECT PAN AM WHICH, BECAUSE OF OPERATIONAL CONSIDERATIONS PLANS TO USE 707'S ON THE TWO ADDITIONAL

SERVICES BEING REQUESTED. DEPARTMENT FURTHER UNDERSTANDS THAT IN NOVEMBER 1972, AFTER THE PRESENT RESTRICTIONS BECAME EFFECTIVE, AIR INDIA RECEIVED AUTHORITY TO COMMENCE TWO NEW FLIGHTS PER WEEK, AND A SIMILAR EXCEPTION WAS MADE FOR CAAC IN SEPTEMBER 1974. WHILE WE ARE NOT SANGUINE IN THE LIGHT OF ALL THAT HAS TAKEN PLACE, THAT A HARD HITTING NOTE WILL GET THE RESULTS WE DESIRE, WE BELIEVE IT MAY BE WORTH TRYING, AND IT MAY ALSO BE USEFUL TO HAVE IT IN THE RECORD.

2. IF EMBASSY THEREFORE PERCEIVES NO OBJECTION, IT MAY PREPARE AND DELIVER NOTE ALONG FOLLOWING LINES:

...AND HAS THE HONOR TO REFER TO THE EMBASSY'S NOTE TRANSMITTING PROPOSED SCHEDULES OF PAN AMERICAN WORLD AIRWAYS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE AGREED MINUTE OF JANUARY 14, 1959, RESPECTING THE AIR TRANSPORT SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND JAPAN.

THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IS CONCERNED BY THE FAILURE OF THE JAPANESE AERONAUTICAL OFFICIALS TO APPROVE THE SCHEDULES FILED BY PAN AMERICAN. UNDER THE PROPOSED SCHEDULES, THE CARRIER WOULD PLAN TO INCREASE ITS OPERATIONS AT THE OSAKA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT FROM 22 TO 24 PER WEEK. WITHIN A TOTAL QUOTA IN EXCESS OF 2800 SCHEDULED OPERATIONS PER WEEK THE INCREASE OF TWO FLIGHTS BEING SOUGHT IS CLEARLY MINIMAL, COULD BE EXPECTED TO HAVE NO ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTAL OR NOISE ENHANCEMENT EFFECTS, OR CONTRIBUTE SIGNIFICANTLY TO OPERATIONAL CONGESTION.

THE UNILATERAL DISAPPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED CAPACITY INCREASE AT OSAKA APPEARS CLEARLY INCONSISTENT WITH THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RIGHTS EXCHANGED IN THE AIR TRANSPORT SERVICES AGREEMENT IN THAT THE CARRIER DESIGNATED BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IS BEING RESTRICTED IN THE USE OF RIGHTS EXCHANGED IN 1965. THE UNITED STATES ACCEPTED THE 1965 ROUTE EXCHANGE ON THE BASIS OF THE CAPACITY PROCEDURES IN THE AGREEMENT AS SUPPLEMENTED BY THE CONTINUING EFFECTIVENESS OF THE 1959 AGREED MINUTE WHICH WAS REAFFIRMED. FAILURE TO PERMIT THE USE OF OSAKA IN

ACCORDANCE WITH THOSE PROCEDURES BRINGS INTO QUESTION THE BALANCE OF THE ROUTE RIGHTS EXCHANGED. NEITHER THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT NOR ANY UNITED STATES AIRPORT OPERATOR HAS IMPOSED PARALLEL RESTRICTIONS ON JAPAN AIR LINES.

IT IS FURTHER UNDERSTOOD THAT NOTWITHSTANDING THE RESTRICTIONS IN EFFECT AT OSAKA, AUTHORITY WAS GIVEN FOR AIR INDIA TO COMMENCE TWO NEW FLIGHTS PER WEEK IN NOVEMBER 1972, AND A SIMILAR EXCEPTION WAS MADE FOR CAAC IN SEPTEMBER 1974. THEREFORE, ALTHOUGH WE DO NOT WISH TO ESCALATE THIS PROBLEM, IT WOULD BE MOST APPRECIATED IF THE JAPANESE AUTHORITIES WOULD, IN HONORING THE PROVISIONS OF THE AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES, ACCORD THE SAME FLEXIBILITY TOWARD THE UNITED STATES CARRIER AS HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO AIR INDIA AND CAAC, AND AUTHORIZE PAN AMERICAN WORLD AIRWAYS, THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED CARRIER TO OPERATE THE SCHEDULES TRANSMITTED EARLIER BY THE EMBASSY. COMPLIMENTARY CLOSE. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIR ROUTES, AIR SCHEDULES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE033423
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WBCOBB:TP
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750054-0260
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750245/aaaabnya.tel
Line Count: 135
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: TOKYO 1344
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 JUL 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <22 DEC 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVAIR - PAN AM FLIGHTS AT OSAKA
TAGS: EAIR, JA, US, PANAM
To: TOKYO
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006